

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/552,932	TAYLOR ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kimbinh T. Nguyen	2671	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 10/28/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 July 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendment filed 10/28/04.
2. Claims 1-30 are pending in the application.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 9 and 21, the prior art does not teach comparing the X coordinates for the at least one vertex with X clip values to determine an X clip code, wherein the X clip values correspond to the minimum and maximum X values for the display space scaled to include a horizontal discard clip guard band which is defined as lying within a trivial accept guard band; comparing the Y coordinates for the at least one vertex with Y clip values to determine a Y clip code, wherein the Y clip values correspond to the minimum and maximum Y values for the display space scaled to include a vertical discard clip guard band which is defined as lying within the trivial accept guard band; comparing to Z coordinates for the at least one vertex with Z clip values to determine a Z clip code, wherein the Z clip values correspond to minimum and maximum Z values; determining if the primitive can be discarded based on the X clip code, the Y clip code, and the Z clip code.

Claim 11, the prior art does not teach a clip code generator to receive a clip-space primitive, wherein the clip code generator compares coordinates for vertices of the clip-space primitive with screen space coordinates scaled by a discard clip guard band which is defined as lying within a trivial accept guard band to determine discard clip codes for the clip-space primitive; an evaluation block coupled to the clip code

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generator, wherein the evaluation block evaluates the discard clip codes to produce a discard decision included in control information, wherein the discard decision indicates whether the clip-space primitive can be discarded; a clip processing block coupled to the evaluation block and operable to receive the clip-space primitive, wherein when the discard decision included in the control information indicates that the clip-space primitive can be discarded, the clip processing block discards the clip-space primitive, wherein when the clip-space primitive cannot be discarded, the clip processing block selectively performs clipping functions on the clip-space primitive based on the control information to produce a clipped primitive.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

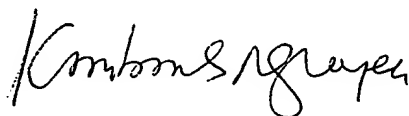
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimbinh T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7644. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman, can be reached at (571) 272-7653. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

April 13, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimbinh T. Nguyen', written in a cursive style.

KIMBINH T. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER